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Thursday, May 29, 2014

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With skin-cancer rates rising, the Canadian Cancer Society wants you to cover up PAGE 6

Rejuvenation in order for park

Public discusses a new design for Cornwallis Park and that hotly disputed name PAGE 3

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TEAMMATES LUKE GREEN, RIGHT, AND EVAN FITZPATRICK COULD GO TOP 5 IN QMJHL DRAFT PAGE 21



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CYCLISTS UNITE IN TRAGEDY

Cyclists make their way up Windmill Road in Dartmouth with a ghost bike in honour of Johanna Dean, who was killed in an accident last week. Several hundred cyclists came out for the memorial, which ended at the accident site. Story, page 4. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Crown, defence make last pitch

Lyle Howe trial. Credibility main focus of closing arguments



RUTH DAVENPORT
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The Crown and defence each questioned the reliability of the other's main witness during closing arguments in the sexual-assault trial of Halifax lawyer Lyle Howe.

"This case is about regret," defence attorney Mike Taylor told the jury in Nova Scotia Supreme Court on Wednesday. "From the outset, (the complainant) got herself involved in ... something that she regrets happened."

Howe is charged with sexual assault and administering a stupefying drug in connection with an incident involving a then-19-year-old woman in March 2011.

Howe and the complainant engaged in "extensive" sexual activity at the end of what had been set up as a date between the complainant and Howe's friend, Jeffrey Brown, but the critical question is whether the young woman consented.

On Friday

Chief Justice Joseph Kennedy will deliver his charge to the jury Friday morning.

The Crown said the "totality of the evidence" points to someone who couldn't consent.



Lyle Howe METRO

The complainant testified she couldn't remember the night's events beyond a certain point, and she wasn't taking any medication that would account for the codeine and morphine in her system.

"Is it a coincidence that mere hours, if that, after Lyle Howe's left ... she has severe symptoms: Dry heaving, passing out, not making any sense whatsoever?" asked Crown attorney Dan Rideout.

Taylor questioned the complainant's behaviour after the incident, suggesting it was regret over the encounter that "morphed" her story into one of sexual assault.

"You may think you're just telling a few friends, looking for attention, feedback, sympathy, but it's pretty hard to put the brakes on a story like this," he said.

Rideout, however, said the complainant addressed gaps in her memory honestly rather than providing "convenient" answers. He characterized Howe's testimony as evasive and cited testimony from Brown to suggest Howe orchestrated the evening specifically to have a sexual encounter.

"Mr. Brown suggested that ... (Howe) wanted to have sex with her," said Rideout. "(Brown's) direct quote: 'If Lyle wanted to meet a girl, it wouldn't be for any other reason.'"


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Highfield Park Drive

Alleged car thieves nabbed in citizen's arrest

While every Canadian citizen has the right to arrest bad guys, Halifax Regional Police are reminding residents to act more like Superman and less like Batman when fighting crime.

Citizens can only make an arrest under certain circumstances and, just like a police officer, their actions are scrutinized.

"As a police officer, and a citizen, you can use as much force as necessary, but you're also criminally responsible for any excessive force that may have been used," spokesman Const. Pierre Bourdages said on Wednesday.

The message comes after a Highfield Park Drive resident made a citizen's arrest of two people suspected of stealing his Honda Civic earlier this week. Police say the man was in a legal position to make the arrest because the car was his property.

The unnamed citizen saw his stolen truck outside a Shoppers Drug Mart, parked his rental car in front of it, confronted the other driver and pinned him to the ground.

He then called police to take a man and a woman into custody.

"I've seen it before for something as simple as graffiti," said Bourdages. "It does happen. It only applies in limited circumstances. We do not see them happen very often, but it does happen."

Those circumstances include protecting your own property, pursuing a criminal or intervening in an indictable offence.

DESIREE FINHERT/FOR METRO



Demonstrators gather at the foot of the statue in Cornwallis Park on Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO

'It's tired and ready for reinvestment'

Rejuvenation. Public discusses Cornwallis Park design, changing name



HALEY RYAN
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An open house on the rejuvenation of Cornwallis Park in downtown Halifax saw many bring up ideas like using native plants in the park and clean energy, while some called for equal emphasis on renaming the space and changing Cornwallis' statue to reflect a full history.

Carolle Koziak, landscape architect with HRM, presented staff's new design for the park Wednesday night at the Westin, which includes a tiered amphitheatre with performance space, new playground, central promenade and a round plaza with paths spreading out through grassy areas as well as widened sidewalks on Hollis Street.

"It's tired and ready for reinvestment," Koziak said about the park, finished in 1931 and federally owned until 2000 when HRM took over.

The statue of Edward Cornwallis, founder of Halifax and first governor of Nova Scotia, remains in the middle of the park in the new design, which some people said they want to change in light of the British general's scalp bounty aimed at removing all Mi'kmaq people from the land.

"That alone is an affront," Mi'kmaq elder Billy Lewis said about the statue.

Lewis said many people in Halifax, especially the Mi'kmaq community, would have liked to address changing the name or including Cornwallis' full list of actions on a plaque before moving forward on a design.

Aaron Goodwin said he's not of aboriginal heritage but the name still bothers him.

"When we have people coming in ... from other places do we really want them to see that?"

Coun. Waye Mason said he was committed to having a conversation with the Acadian and Mi'kmaq communities about the name, but emphasized that will happen while improvements to the playground go forward this summer so children don't continue to use dangerous equipment.

Most people said they liked the overall design, but would like to see more representation from the different cultures that shaped Halifax's history through art or sculptures.

In numbers

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Family of killed cyclist hopes story brings change

'She radiated light.'
Sister says the death will raise awareness around cycling, need for protected lanes



HALEY RYAN
haley.ryan@metronews.ca

The silvery sound of bike bells rang out from a group of 300 cyclists as they arrived at the intersection where Johanna Dean died in a biking accident a week ago, her twin sister leading the pack in a pink shirt to honour Dean's "vibrant" life and personality.

Julie Dean and other family members installed a white ghost bike at the intersection of Windmill Road and Albro Lake Road on Wednesday in memory of 30-year-old Johanna, who died May 21 after being struck by a truck while riding her bike.

"She radiated light onto everyone she connected with," Julie said, wearing a pink shirt with "Angel" written on the front and silver wings on the back.

"It's been a rough week, but it's been a good week as well, because I've been given many opportunities to remember Johanna in a very, very, very positive way."

She said her twin, who went to a Dalhousie and Acadia universities, was teaching at St. Catherine's Elementary School and also taught her "how to live a positive life."

One of the five Dean sisters, Jackie, said she knew Johanna was there with Julie during the memorial ride from the Dartmouth Sportsplex.

"(Biking) just made her feel just grateful and happy," Jackie said. "She was probably smiling and just loving that there was sun out that day."

Over the past week, Jackie said, dozens of Johanna's friends have visited their home and made posters with photos of her throughout the years, with a lot of storytelling and laughing.

Jackie had talked with Johanna on the phone right before her bike ride, and both her and their mother had told her they loved her.

"She was so happy, and that's the last thing I have of her," Jackie said with tears in her eyes, her voice breaking.

Their family hopes Johanna's story makes an impact on bike safety in Halifax, Jackie said, so there's "not going to be another tragedy."

Julie said a "blessing in disguise" of Johanna's passing is that her teaching will continue through raising awareness around cycling and the need for protected lanes, but also her spirituality and "how to live life properly."

"So many people and souls coming together for something that was important to Johanna is … so helpful for us," Jackie said as she looked at the hundreds of bikers surrounding her.

"I know Johanna is … looking down on us and smiling like she always does."

Quoted

"It's really helping in the grief, knowing that so many people care."

Jackie Dean



Johanna Dean's twin sister, Julie Dean, holds a ghost bike, flanked by family and friends on the corner of Windmill and Albro Lake Road on Wednesday. JEFF HARPER/METRO



Johanna's friend Allie Nugent, left, and Johanna's cousin Amy Buckland, embrace after the ghost bike's install. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Military man facing child-porn charges

A military reservist has been charged with possessing child pornography at a Canadian Forces camp in Nova Scotia.

The Canadian Forces National Investigation Service charged 26-year-old Cpl. Lawrence Arthur Jordan on Tuesday in provincial court in Kentville with one count under the Criminal Code of possessing child pornography.

Capt. Joanna Labonte says the alleged offence occurred last June at Camp Aldershot near Wolfville, and would only say that it involved an electronic device.

She says Jordan is a part-time member of the Forces with the Cape Breton Highlanders in Sydney. He joined in 2008. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man stabbed in stomach near Dartmouth business

Police say they expect to lay charges after a man was stabbed in the stomach outside a Dartmouth business on Wednesday night.

Just after 9:30 p.m., police were called to Portland Street after two men in their sixties got into a verbal altercation outside a business.

Police say a 61-year-old man eventually took out a knife and stabbed the 69-year-old victim in the stomach.

The suspect was subdued by staff until police arrived and he was arrested by officers.

The victim suffered non-life threatening injuries and was taken to hospital.
KING'S COUNTY REGISTER

Bluenose II test drive called off

Yet another snag.
Missing paperwork to blame for last-minute cancellation: Province

What's next

Premier Stephen McNeil announced Wednesday that David Darrow, his deputy minister and the clerk of the executive council, would assume oversight of the restoration.

The restoration of the Bluenose II, heavily promoted as Nova Scotia's sailing ambassador, hit yet another snag Wednesday as provincial officials scrambled to explain why they had to nix a long-anticipated test drive at the last minute.

Kelliann Dean, the deputy minister for the province's Culture and Heritage Department, said the cancellation happened because of a lack of paperwork.

Dean said officials in her department thought they had been cleared to go ahead with the test in Lunenburg when they received verbal assurances from a surveyor with the American Bureau of Shipping to proceed.

But Dean said what was actually needed was an inspection certificate from Transport Canada before the vessel could be allowed to leave the dock.

She said officials became aware of the problem late Tuesday and it was made public early Wednesday. The test drive has been postponed until further notice.

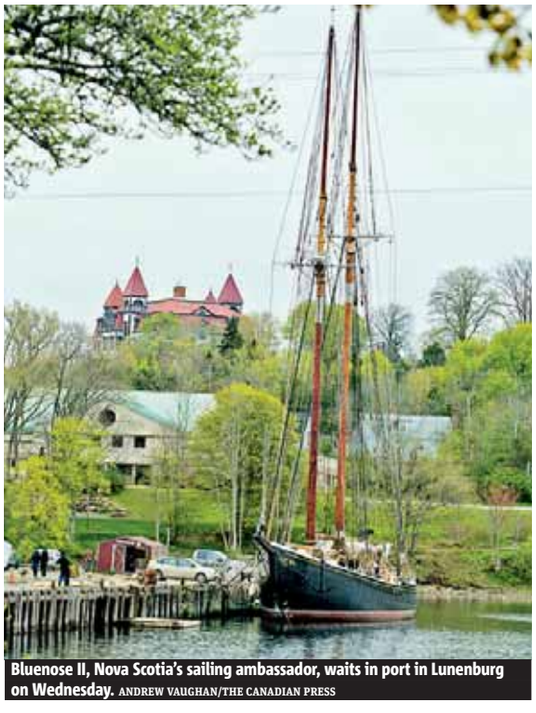
The provincial government announced late Tuesday that the Bluenose II would undergo engine, steering and anchor tests in Lunenburg harbour if the weather co-operated.

The Opposition Progressive Conservatives blamed "Liberal incompetence" for the abrupt cancellation, saying the latest glitch was inexcusable.

"It's the minister's responsibility to ensure that his department is prepared for something like this," said Karla MacFarlane, the Tory critic for the Bluenose II file.

"Really? You thought that you could take it out with just a verbal agreement?"

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Bluenose II, Nova Scotia's sailing ambassador, waits in port in Lunenburg on Wednesday. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Fired ECBC CEO won't receive severance

Investigation

Lynn has been on leave with pay for almost a year as the integrity investigation took place.

The fired CEO of Enterprise Cape Breton Corp. will not receive severance, the minister of state responsible for the federal Crown corporation says.

A day after his office indicated it couldn't say whether John Lynn was entitled to severance because it was a personnel matter, Rob Moore, minister of state for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency, issued a statement saying that Lynn's appointment was terminated with cause as of Tuesday.

"This decision was taken as a result of findings from an independent investigation undertaken by the board of directors of the corporation that determined that Mr. Lynn's actions were incompatible with his position as CEO of ECBC," Moore said in the statement.

"As a standard practice, the government of Canada does not provide severance when an individual's appointment is terminated with cause."

The public sector integrity commissioner released a report Tuesday that found Lynn had breached a code of conduct in a number of executive hirings. The four hires had strong ties to the federal Conservatives or provincial Progressive Conservatives and the positions were filled without competitive processes, giving them the appearance of partisan appointments, Commissioner Mario Dion said in his report.

After the report was released, Moore said he had taken steps to terminate Lynn's employment. CAPE BRETON POST

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Sun seekers urged to protect themselves this summer

Caution. Skin cancer rates on rise in Nova Scotia, Canada

Just like your mom told you to wear a coat in the winter, the Canadian Cancer Society will be nagging Nova Scotians to cover up this summer.

They want to see more sun hats, more sun block, more clothes and more pale skin at the beach — all to prevent skin cancer.

"We want to change the conversation around tanning and go from tan really being the norm to the exception," said Kelly Cull with the Canadian Cancer Society at a press conference in Halifax on Wednesday to release new cancer statistics.

"This idea that tanned skin is beautiful skin is really a myth that we need to debunk."

Nova Scotian women have earned the ugly reputation of having the highest melanoma rates in Canada, with Nova Scotia men a close second behind Prince Edward Island. It's expected that 140 women and 150 men will be diagnosed in the province this year.

They're frustrating statistic as 90 per cent of skin cancers can be prevented by avoided excess sun and tanning beds.

Exactly why Nova Scotians are burning up is unknown, but it could be because we're exposed to more intense sun during our shorter summer. It could be because of southern-destination holidays, genetics or tanning bed use.

The Sun Safe Coalition was behind the Nova Scotia Tanning Beds Act, restricting usage to people over 19 years old, and now it wants to curtail tanning salon advertising

"There are messages that tanning beds are safe," said Dr. Peter Green, who says tanning salon advertising needs to change. "(That) people should pursue them before going down south to get a base tan, which we certainly don't advise. Messages about Vitamin D, so encouraging people to overexpose themselves for that reason."

It's expected the new number of skin cancer diagnoses this year will equal the number of the four major cancers combined — lung, breast, colorectal and prostate.

DESIREE FINHERT/FOR METRO

Deaths/diagnosis

Canadian Cancer Society estimates for Nova Scotia 2014:

- **Men diagnosed:** 710 prostate cancer, 490 colorectal cancer, 470 lung cancer.
- **Men dead:** 370 lung cancer, 200 colorectal cancer, 130 prostate cancer.
- **Women diagnosed:** 760 breast cancer, 470 lung cancer, 400 colorectal cancer.
- **Women dead:** 350 lung cancer, 160 colorectal cancer, 130 breast cancer.



Scott Freill, left, Julia Woynar and Aaron MacPherson toss the ball around in the heat at Rainbow Haven Beach in Dartmouth last summer. JEFF HARPER/METRO

Offshore safety rules are fine for now: Minister

Nova Scotia's energy minister says he's satisfied with federal legislation aimed at improving safety in the offshore energy sector even though it doesn't call for an independent safety agency, a measure he pushed for while in Opposition.

"I still think there is merit in having an offshore safety board," Andrew Younger said in an interview.

"The reality is that I'm not going to sit around for five or six years ... while waiting and hoping that the other provinces and federal government might come on board."

Younger said Ottawa's proposal to have an independent safety officer within the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Board is good enough — for now.

"It's a huge step ahead from where we were," he said. "It's not the same as having a completely separate organization, but it is a step forward."

The federal government has argued the regulatory boards in Nova Scotia and Newfoundland and Labrador are already independent of the industry. When Bill C-5 was tabled last October, Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver said he did not support the "proliferation" of regulators because that would not improve safety, worker protection or environmental protection.

At a glance

- Independent safety boards have been set up for the offshore industries in Norway, Australia, the United Kingdom and the United States.

In 2011, while a member of the provincial Liberal Opposition, Younger said a stand-alone, independent watchdog was a must for Nova Scotia.

"When you're dealing with an inherently risky environment, it makes sense that you would have an independent agency or watchdog making sure that lives aren't lost and that you don't have injuries," he said at the time.

Younger's comments came nearly a year after an inquiry into an offshore helicopter crash called for the creation of an independent safety agency. The inquiry investigated the March 2009 crash of Cougar Flight 491, which plunged into the ocean near Newfoundland, killing 17 of the 18 people aboard.

The inquiry, led by retired judge Robert Wells, found serious flaws with the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board, the equivalent of Nova Scotia's offshore regulator.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Art Biggs and Laura Delchiaro dress in 1914 attire on Wednesday afternoon for a press conference to announce details of this year's Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo, which will be paying tribute to the First World War.
PATRICK MCKENNA/METRO

Tattoo marching on after early missteps

The beat goes on. Popular event celebrating its 35th anniversary

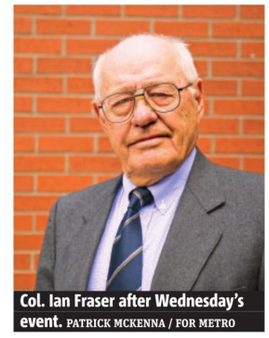
DESIREE FINHERT
halifax@metronews.ca

The polished pipe-and-drum performance audiences see today is a far cry from the first Tattoo performance 35 years ago.

As the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo pulls up its socks for its milestone 35th anniversary, some of the original organizers are reminiscing about that first day on stage.

"Chaos," said Col. Ian Fraser who produced and directed the 1979 show. "We never did rehearse that first show. We ran out of rehearsal time, so we just went and did it for Her Majesty."

At one point, Fraser said, there were 150 pipers on the floor piping with about 75 playing a different song.



Col. Ian Fraser after Wednesday's event. PATRICK MCKENNA / FOR METRO

"Nobody in the audience ever noticed," chuckled Fraser during the launch of this year's show at the Halifax Metro Centre on Wednesday. "It says something about pipes and drums and the musical quality of it."

That show went so well it was held over a second day.

Sen. John Buchanan remembers those early years, as well.

"I must have enjoyed the Tattoo myself," he said at the press conference. "This year will mark probably the 81st time that I viewed the Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo, because for my 13 years as premier, I attended everyone of the nights."

Now the grandchildren of the original performers have continued their grandparents' legacy by piping, drumming and dancing in the Nova Scotian institution. This year's show will have Olympic athletes, acrobatic cyclists, Flying Grandpas, police and civilian performers.

Event information

- The Royal Nova Scotia International Tattoo runs from July 1 to 8 at the Halifax Metro Centre. Tickets are being sold through Ticket Atlantic.



Reunion. Congolese kids back in the arms of their Italian adoptive parents

Thirty-one children who had been blocked for months from leaving Congo with their adoptive parents arrived in Rome on Wednesday aboard an Italian government plane for a joyful, long-delayed reunion with their new families.

The children ran excitedly into their parents' arms at Ciampino airport after an overnight flight from the western African nation. Congo suspended all international adoptions last year, citing fears some children might later have been trafficked. None of the allegations involved adoptions by Italians, and Italy's premier personally intervened in the case.

Maria Elena Boschi, an Italian government minister who accompanied the children from Congo, said "they went crazy when, from the plane's windows, they spotted their parents" waiting on the tarmac.

The mother of two of the children, girls ages seven and nine, was ecstatic. "Happiness, happiness. I saw my two children. I kissed them and I hugged them," said Laura Mancinelli.

The parents were forced to leave Congo without their children when their visas expired, after spending months there waiting for final paperwork and hoping for a policy change from the Congolese government. The children stayed behind in the care of Italian nuns.

Boschi sported a braid woven into her hair by one of the girls during the flight. She said all the children are healthy. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Congolese children are welcomed by their Italian adoptive relatives as they disembark after landing from Kinshasa at Ciampino's military airport, on the outskirts of Rome, Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Sara Schulz, who is eight months pregnant and World Vision's child health policy adviser, helps to set up a striking display in downtown Toronto, Wednesday, to urge world leaders to focus on the millions of "invisible" children and women who die each year of preventable causes. WORLD VISION CANADA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

UNICEF chief says Canada delivers

Maternal health summit. UN Children's Fund head lauds courage of Nigerian schoolgirls as conference opens

Efforts to improve the health of newborns and their mothers in poor countries must also include protecting them from violence, such as the terror caused by Boko Haram in Nigeria, says the head of the UN Children's Fund.

UNICEF chief Anthony Lake offered that assessment in an interview Wednesday with The Canadian Press prior to the opening of Stephen Harper's international conference on maternal, newborn and child health.

Lake lauded the prime minister's leadership in helping children and mothers in developing countries as he heaped praise on the courage of the teenage girls kidnapped by Boko Haram in northern Nigeria.

He said he would raise his concerns about child protection in a private meeting later Wednesday with Harper's international development minister, Christian Paradis.

As for Harper, Lake said: "He has led the way on this and Canada has delivered and is delivering, again 80 per cent of its commitment at Muskoka."

Harper unveiled the Muskoka Initiative at the G8 summit Canada hosted in 2010, and it has become the government's signature development priority. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Threat to girls' education

Kidnapping highlights larger issue

The Boko Haram kidnapping was on the minds of many at the three-day summit on maternal and child health.

Anthony Lake, head of the UN Children's Fund, said the Nigerian kidnapping draws attention to one of the underlying causes of the health threats faced by young mothers and girls in impoverished, war-torn countries: The importance of overcoming the threat to girls' education posed by militant groups. THE CANADIAN PRESS



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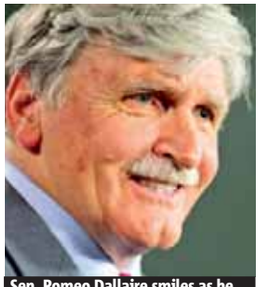
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Sen. Romeo Dallaire resigning to focus on humanitarian causes

'An extraordinary Canadian.' Former UN commander in Rwanda will serve last day in the upper chamber on June 17



Sen. Romeo Dallaire smiles as he answers a question during a news conference in Ottawa Wednesday. ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Liberal Sen. Romeo Dallaire, a career soldier best known in Canada as the former commander of the UN's ill-fated peacekeeping mission in Rwanda, is resigning — not retiring, he insists — from the upper chamber.

Dallaire's last day in the Senate will be June 17, after which he intends to focus attention on a growing portfolio of international humanitarian work, the square-jawed senator told a news conference Wednesday.

The decision has nothing to do with either the shadow of scandal that has loomed over the Senate for more than a year, or with the Rwandan-born post-traumatic stress disorder that has haunted him for 20 years, he said.

Rather, the 68-year-old Dallaire said he felt there simply wasn't enough time in his schedule to be a senator while also pursuing causes close to his heart that are related to defence and human rights in the international arena.

"I have an awful lot of work ahead of me, and it was important for me to leave at this point."

Dallaire said resigning has left him with a "torn heart" because his nine years in the Senate allowed him to champion issues including veterans and their families, a strong military to help ensure global peace, anti-terrorism, aboriginal rights and better intelligence oversight.

"I think it was a very useful instrument for me to advance things I believe in," he said.

While Dallaire's news came as a surprise, it was quickly followed by glowing praise from all political quarters.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper thanked the senator via Twitter for his service, Conservative Sen. Hugh Segal said he was "devastated" to hear of his colleague's decision, calling



Sorry, that's not how you become a polar bear

Talk about an uncomfortable spot for a snooze. A black bear north of Shellbrook, Sask., decided to take a power nap atop a power pole last Friday after he escaped a pair of dogs. According to a SaskPower spokesperson, customer Tyler Hopson alerted the company to the animal, and crews were then dispatched to check out the bedtime bear. "It's kind of an unusual thing," the spokesman said. "He did manage to get down from the pole safely, and is not injured as far as we know and didn't do any damage to the pole or cause any sort of power outage." COURTESY SASKPOWER

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Greenpeace, WWF wage legal war against 50 multinationals

Environmental groups have fired legal warning shots at major energy companies over their alleged role in funding climate change denial and blocking climate-friendly legislation.

Greenpeace and the World Wildlife Fund have sent letters to international and Canadian companies asking how they manage public communication on climate change.

They say spreading misinformation could leave company officers open to legal liability.

Keith Stewart of Greenpeace Canada says the letters are the first step in a long-term campaign to use the law to prevent the energy industry from delaying action on climate change.

He says the strategy was inspired by the ultimately successful campaign to make tobacco companies liable for sowing doubt about the health effects of their products.

The letter has been sent to five Canadian companies: Suncor, Talisman Energy, Husky Energy, EnCana and Canadian Natural Resources.

It has also gone out to 45 multinationals, including many with operations or subsidiaries in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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Dancing to a different beat

A young dancer takes part in the youth drum competition during the University of Saskatchewan graduation powwow in Saskatoon on Wednesday. LIAM RICHARDS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

PBDEs to blame for lower IQs in children: Study

Household dangers. Study suggests impact of chemicals similar to that of lead exposure

Researchers in B.C. say lower IQ and greater hyperactivity in young children appears to be significantly linked to a woman's exposure to flame retardants during early pregnancy.

The Simon Fraser University study found there's an association between women being exposed to a 10-fold increase of certain chemicals when their baby's brain is developing and a 4.5-point drop in the standard measure of intelligence.

The chemicals of concern are polybrominated diphenyl ethers, known as PBDEs, which have been widely used to prevent the spread of fire in furniture, carpet padding and car seats.

Researcher and health sciences Prof. Bruce Lanphear says North Americans are likely exposed to higher amounts of PBDEs than people in other parts of the world, and it could take decades to flush the chemicals from their environments.

The study suggests the impact of the chemicals is comparable to exposure to lead, which was once used in various products including paint and pipes in homes and offices.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The robots *are* taking over ... the driving of cars

Stranger than science fiction. Sorry, no flying cars or transporters just yet, but Google speeds ahead with a pretty cool self-driving car prototype

Google will build a car without a steering wheel.

It doesn't need one because it drives itself.

The two-seater won't be sold publicly, but Google said Tuesday it hopes by this time next year, 100 prototypes will be on public roads. Though not driving very quickly — the top speed would be 25 miles per hour.

The cars are a natural next step for Google, which already has driven hundreds of thousands of miles in California with Lexus SUVs and Toyota Priuses outfitted with a combination of sensors and computers.

Those cars have Google-employed "safety drivers" behind the wheel in case of emergency. The new cars would eliminate the driver from the task of driving.

No steering wheel, no brake and gas pedals. Instead, buttons for go and stop.

"It reminded me of catching a chairlift by yourself, a bit of solitude I found really enjoyable," Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google, told a Southern California tech conference Tuesday evening of his first ride, according to a transcript.

The electric-powered car is compact and bubble-shaped — something that might move people around a corporate campus or congested downtown.

Google is unlikely to go deeply into auto manufacturing. In unveiling the prototype, the company emphasized partnering with other firms.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



The future is now. Here is a very early version of Google's prototype self-driving car. GOOGLE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Yahoo killed the YouTube star? Marissa Mayer takes on her old employer

Yahoo is planning a YouTube rival. Due to launch this summer, the new video site will focus on attracting content creators through a greater potential to earn money.

According to Ad Age, the rival service is not only at an advanced stage of development, it had been scheduled to launch in April. However, the big reveal is being pushed back while contractual issues are addressed.

Yahoo's CEO, Marissa Mayer, used to be an executive at Google-owned YouTube.

While YouTube is by far the biggest video-sharing site Yahoo believes that it can attract producers and creators by offering a better split of advertising revenue. AFP

Market Minute

DOLLAR
91.95¢ (-0.12¢)

TSX
14,610.96 (-47.06)

OIL
$102.72 US (-$1.39)

GOLD
$1,259.30 US (-$6.20)

Natural gas: $4.60 US (+$0.10)
Dow Jones: 16,633.18 (-42.32)

Valeant Pharmaceuticals

Quebec company ups its bid price for Botox maker

Valeant Pharmaceuticals increased its hostile offer to buy Botox-maker Allergan on Wednesday and threatened to bypass the board by taking it directly to shareholders.

However, analysts suggested Valeant may have to raise its offer again.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD?



HE SAYS
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Is the world getting better or worse?

It's a question that's been debated for decades by a diverse array of middle-aged white men with post-secondary educations. Happy that my people are getting a voice, I've given the issue a lot of thought myself.

I'm torn. On one hand, the world sucks; on the other, it sucks to a lesser magnitude than any time since the Space Odyssey monolith taught us how to brain our fellow monkeys.

The world feels like it's getting worse, but that's just human nature. It's the same phenomenon that allows us to believe that every generation but our own is the one destroying the Earth.

When we were young, we convinced ourselves that our generation was the most hard-done-by ever, which is why the peace and prosperity of the early 1990s still managed to produce teens sulking to Nirvana and Smashing Pumpkins. Then we got older and convinced ourselves that young people were out of control. I'm reaching the age where friends talk about "the teens on the bus" or "the kids at the mall" as if they are a consolidated trade union with the united goal of making life miserable for normal people. Whether we blame the selfish baby boomers or the irresponsible youth, everyone thinks the world is spinning out of control. But what is the reality?

Here are some of the key arguments when weighing Louis Armstrong's "What a wonderful world" against the Wicked Witch of the West's "Oh what a world!"

Resolved — the world is getting better

Pro:

*The intertwined world economy means it's rare for two countries with McDonald's to go to war, most likely because people are too winded to lift their weapons and too big to wedge themselves into their tank holes.

* Thanks to the miracle of the Internet, literally anyone with a minor rash can spend a few minutes online and confidently diagnose themselves with cancer.

* Game of Thrones is so awesome right now.

* Previously intractable problems such as extreme poverty can now be solved with a clever hashtag.

* The world is united as never before thanks to its shared hatred of Kim and Kanye.

Con:

* While countries with McDonald's rarely fight each other, hundreds of thousands have died in the Denny's Wars.

* "Statisticians" will try to tell you that life expectancy is getting higher, but did you know that every single person on Earth is closer to death today than they were yesterday?

* YouTube comments.

* The government knows everything about me, including my PIN, my taste for online rap battles, and that when I'm in a rush I use Head & Shoulders as impromptu bodywash, despite the anatomical specificity of its name.

* Genetically modified strawberries are watery and flavourless.

Five arguments for and five against, so you can see why I haven't yet reached a conclusion. My gut feeling is that the world is better than it's ever been, but that climate change is a sizable wild card that could drastically increase violent weather, destroy the world's agriculture and sink entire cities. Darn kids.

ZOOM

Made of spur parts



Black Hawk is a scrap-iron sculpture of a life-size plow horse pulling a single bottom plow, made by 43-year-old artist John Lopez, based in Lemmon, S.D. JOHN LOPEZ/REX FEATURES

South Dakota

Artist turns metal into animals

The heavy beasts look like they're up for a scrap — scrap metal, that is. These sculptures are the work of artist John Lopez, who welds the pieces from abandoned farm machinery. Based in Lemmon, S.D., the 43-year-old has created full-size replicas of animals such as a horse, buffalo and even a triceratops dinosaur. MWN

Artist's viewpoint

"I moved to my uncle's ranch to make a family cemetery. But after finishing a perimeter fence I ran out of material and, being 35 miles from the nearest town, had to search for usable scrap iron on site. It led on to working with the metal as art material."

John Lopez, scrap-metal artist

Favorite weld-work

'The plow horse is a part of our past'

Out of all the critters welded, the scrap-iron plow horse named Black Hawk is Lopez's most prized creation. "The plow horse is a symbol worldwide that we all understand to be a part of our past and history. We depended on them so much before modern machinery was invented," the artist says. "I think Black Hawk is the one I am most proud of." MWN

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MetroTube

They're happy tears



ANDREW FIFIELD
metronews.ca

Listen. This is a crucial warning.

This video of Mr. G, a very sad and lonely goat being reunited with his best pal, Jellybean the burro, is a festival of tears. Not lock-yourself-indoors-with-Enya-songs-and-a-tub-of-ice-cream tears, mind you. More the redemptive kind.

So as long as you're OK with being a little tear-streaked — or at least misty — in public, then by all means, go right ahead.

One last warning: Mute the sound if you don't like terrible music. (AnimalPlace/YouTube)



YOUTUBE

metro

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Tommy Emmanuel and the guitar are lifelong friends

From crib to stage.
The Thumb Pickers Hall of Fame member received his first guitar for his fourth birthday



BACKSTAGE PASS
Jenna Conter
halifax@metronews.ca



Tommy Emmanuel will be performing this weekend at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium in Halifax. CONTRIBUTED

Tommy Emmanuel first learned music in the crib, and he was hooked.

His cravings for bedtime lullabies led to his first guitar, which he received for his fourth birthday, and it seems like he never put it down.

"This what I dreamt of doing when I was a kid. I didn't know how I was going to get there but I knew that's what I had to do, that was my driving force," he said. "I was in love with being on stage, entertaining people and having a good time."

Of course, it makes sense that his fascination with music started that early — how else does one become a musical prodigy by the tender age of six?

A long-time legend in his native Australia, Emmanuel returns to Halifax Sunday night to play the Rebecca Cohn stage.

In addition to his endless accolades, Emmanuel has been named Rolling Stone magazine's Most Popular Guitarist twice, has two CMAA Golden Guitar Awards and is the only non-American to be inducted into the Thumb Pickers Hall of Fame in Muhlenberg, Ky., just to name a few of his distinctions.

Famous for his finger-picking work, Emmanuel remembers a time when he dreaded practising this unique technique.

"When I was really young, my father made me play all the time and I resented it because it took away from my play times with my friends," Emmanuel said. "But when I got older, I was fascinated by it and wanted to really try to work out the complicated music — in its own way, it was its own reward."

To this day practice continues to make perfect, however, even with his complicated licks and fast hands, the passion for the common guitar notes, initiated by his mother's bedtime routine, remains with Emmanuel to this day.

"When I toured with Eric Clapton in 1990, that really changed my life. He showed me a way of using the power of simple notes and I saw him do it every night," he said. "It set me on a path of having a more open mind. There is a sense of freedom in that."

Check it out

What: Tommy Emmanuel

- **Where: Rebecca Cohn Auditorium**
- **When: Sunday, 8 p.m.**
- **Tickets: $43 and $49, through dal.ca**

SCENE



See that symbol? It means you can scan this image with your Metro News app to watch Maya Angelou reciting her poem On the Pulse of Morning at Bill Clinton's first presidential inauguration.

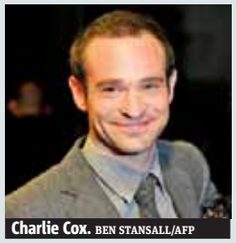
Netflix

Charlie Cox to play Daredevil

Online content platform Netflix has cast British actor Charlie Cox in the lead for its new production on Marvel's blind superhero. The 13-episode miniseries will arrive in 2015.

Cox is the first recruit for Netflix's new collection of four miniseries, each featuring a different Marvel superhero. The platform plans to introduce its subscribers to Jessica Jones, Iron Fist and Luke Cage.

Daredevil battles injustice both during the day, as a lawyer named Matt Murdock, and at night as his superhero alter ego with hyper-developed senses. AFP



Charlie Cox. BEN STANSALL/AFP



Maya Angelou: 1928-2014

In this 1971 photo, Renaissance woman and cultural pioneer Maya Angelou poses with a copy of her book, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings, one of the most widely read memoirs of the past few decades. Angelou died Wednesday morning at her home in Winston-Salem, N.C., her son, Guy B. Johnson, said in a statement. The 86-year-old had been a professor of American studies at Wake Forest University since 1982. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Woody Harrelson and Matthew McConaughey in HBO's True Detective. HBO

True Detective writer reveals Season 2 details

California screamin'.
New setting, characters planned for next season

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News in New York City

HBO's True Detective took the police procedural highbrow. Instead of wooden acting and formulaic plots, True Detective brought us great performances by Woody Harrelson and Matthew McConaughey and one knotty, decade-spanning mystery. It was a huge hit.

However, the series' decade-long structure made it next to impossible for leads McConaughey and Harrelson to return for a second season (plus they're pretty busy being movie stars). True Detective writer Nic Pizzolatto confirmed this week that Season 2 will ditch the Louisiana setting entirely and start fresh with a new cast. "It takes place in California — not Los Angeles but some of the much lesser-known venues of California — and we're going to try to capture a certain psychosphere ambiance of the place, much like we did in Season 1," he told NPR.

Pizzolatto says that the new season of True Detective will have three leads instead of two. According to unofficial casting breakdowns obtained by Deadline, the three characters you'll soon be obsessed with are a 40-something male detective/cop, a 20-something male cop, and — be still my heart — a 30-something female detective.

So who will the new cast be?

Rumour had it that Jessica Chastain would play a role, but she's since confirmed that she turned it down. Brad Pitt, Josh Brolin, and Taylor Kitsch have also been mentioned. However, Pizzolatto says it's too soon to discuss.

"The characters are all new, but I'm deeply in love with each of them," he said on NPR. "We've got the entire series broken out with a couple of scripts, and we'll probably start casting in earnest in the coming months."





See that symbol? It means you can scan the photograph below with your Metro News app to watch the trailer for The Love Punch.

How to elicit Piercing laughter



Pierce Brosnan and Emma Thompson star in The Love Punch, which is in theatres now. CONTRIBUTED

The Love Punch.
Brosnan has no problem laughing at his age or past roles



NED EHRBAR
Metro World News in Hollywood

Pierce Brosnan isn't afraid to poke fun at himself or his age — or his time playing James Bond and Thomas Crowne — in the pursuit of a good laugh. Plus, going for those laughs opposite Emma Thompson doesn't hurt. Brosnan and Thompson play bickering exes in writer-director Joel Hopkins' The Love Punch, about a regular couple who get carried away with a jewel heist as revenge against the callous French banker who tanked their retirement fund.

It's hard to believe this is the first time you've teamed up with Emma Thompson. How was it working with her?
Oh, it was out-of-the-box great. Such a memorable summer it was. We hit the ground running Day One, scene one, like we'd been working together forever. We'd wanted to work with each other for many years. There's just a real fondness for each other, and from my point of view she's just such a gifted lady — beautiful, gifted, kind, gracious, affable. If she was here I wouldn't get a word in edgewise. She is just wildly entertaining.

This film sneaks in some fun nods to your time as James Bond and other previous work.
I certainly got the jokes within the jokes — dressing up in a wetsuit, scaling a rubber mountain, stealing a diamond. Of course. If not now, when? Joel and I had talked often about this kind of humour and this kind of film. So all of the ingredients were just ripe for the doing.

It is odd, though, to see Timothy Spall in a wetsuit.
It's quite a sight to behold. They gave him the wrong size wetsuit. They had to slit it up the back — you can actually see it in the film if you freeze it. Poor Timothy, he was miserable. And they gave him a three-ply, and it was a summer's day. It was so hot.

The locations did seem fairly pleasant.
Bliss, utter joy. It started in the South of France at the Carlton Hotel. I woke up, it was a gorgeous morning, I fed the seagulls that came to my little balcony suite that I had at the top of the hotel. I went down and we all met each other and we started the play. They had lovely French lunches where there's wine — they actually sat us out front on the Croisette. Then we went back to work and continued our day, and that's how the shoot went. So it was very civilized, very otherworldly romantic. I mean, it's a retro-type film.

How do you get the right tone for a screwball comedy like this?
It has to start with sincerity and honesty and a good story. It has to be founded within the truthfulness of character and storytelling so that you can then go off the rails but always come back to it. And in this case, this man is middle-aged, divorced, playing the field with women that are too young for him — that man-boy type mentality. There was a good, strong foundation in that. So for me it was always that, and then ... wetsuits.

Quoted

"I certainly got the jokes within the jokes — dressing up in a wetsuit, scaling a rubber mountain, stealing a diamond. Of course, if not now, when?"
Pierce Brosnan on comedic nods to his prior role as James Bond

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Miley Cyrus ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Miley to Billy Ray: A reality show wouldn't be the Best of Both Worlds

Oh, how the tables have turned. While Miley Cyrus got her start in entertainment thanks to the guidance of dad Billy Ray Cyrus, it now looks like she's advising him on his career decisions. "Billy Ray has turned down what must be his sixth reality show offer in the last four years because Miley has been very strict with her parents about not doing them, even though they have been offered a fortune by all the big players, including Bravo, Lifetime and E!, to open up their home to cameras," a source tells Radar Online. "Miley would much rather do a Christmas special or a concert at the Hollywood Bowl with her dad rather than watch him embarrass himself like Bruce Jenner on TV every week." Apparently the offers were getting lucrative enough to be very, very tempting, the source says. "But ultimately she was very thankful they came to an understanding that it would be a bad idea."

Charlize Theron loving the single life at 38 years old

Charlize Theron has never been married and she couldn't be happier about it. "I'm sure some people would be like, 'I would never want to have that life.' I'm sure there's a lot of aspects to my life that a lot of people wouldn't want. Like the fact that I'm single at 38. That's not necessarily what a lot of women want," she tells Esquire U.K. "But I'm just saying, a life is good if it's the life that you want. I am living my life in a way that if tomorrow it ended — and I hope not, because I have a kid — but if it did, this was the life that I really wanted to live. But I work at that, you know?"



Charlize Theron

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Uh oh! Video surfaces of 1D's Zayn and Louis smoking pot

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News

Ah, a squeaky clean pop group's first big scandal. Someone put this in the photo album: Video surfaced this week of One Direction stars Louis Tomlinson and Zayn Malik smoking a joint in a van.

The Daily Mail has the full video. Louis, who's also the cameraman, says that the group are on their way out of Peru. Marijuana is not particularly legal in Peru, although possession of under eight ounces is decriminalized, and Louis makes clear that he knows what they're doing is not exactly kosher. While filming their police motorcycle escort, Louis jokes, "He's having a look. He's thinking, 'I'm sure I can smell an illegal substance in there,' and he's hit the nail on the head."

Zayn, on the other hand, is a less chatty stoner. He doesn't say much, just smokes, and beams, and chants "Mary J. Blige" in falsetto.

So world, are we going to be shocked by this? I know it's illegal and all, but at this point it's barely illegal most places. I think I'd be more shocked if two teenish dudes weren't smoking pot than if they were. Plus, they just seem so very proud to be Big Boys Doing Drugs that it's a little hard to stay mad at their cute little faces. I imagine those same faces have gotten them out of every scrape they've ever been in. OK, now I'm getting mad again.



Denise Richards

Denise Richards house-hunting after Charlie Sheen kicks her out of her home

Denise Richards and her children are apparently on the hunt for new digs after ex-husband Charlie Sheen reportedly kicked them out of the house in which they'd been living and sold it to a friend, according to the National Enquirer. Sheen initially purchased the home for Richards, but his lawyers "have been working with Denise on vacating the premises," a source says. "Charlie has wanted Denise out of the gated community — where he also lives — for months, and his porn star fiancée, Brett Rossi, has been pushing for it, too." Sheen and Richards have been clashing lately over child support and how much time Sheen can spend with the children they share.

Twitter



@ChloeGMoretz
people have got to stop filming things if they're doing it illegally, you're just asking to get caught, better to not do it at all



@KChenoweth
Damn you kitkat candy bars !!



@lenadunham
Dear neighbors: I don't want to put a password on my wifi. I want to share it! But this is what society tells me to do and I obey.

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SHOPPERS DRUG MART

Spring, how I love hue so

We've got you covered this season in the brightest and boldest the rainbow has to offer, as oranges and blues tie for first place as fashion's dominant tones for the warmer weather

ELIZABETH BEDDALL
Metro World News

Orange is the new everything



ECCO PERFORATED SHOE, $185, ECCOCANADA.COM



EXPRESS SATCHEL, $59.90, EXPRESS.COM



GUESS CORAL SMOCK, $29.50, GUESS.CA



OLD NAVY MAXI DRESS, $42.94, OLDNAVY.CA

Blue is the coolest colour



JONES NEW YORK BLOUSE, $89, THEBAY.COM



AVIVA CHANDELIER EARRINGS, $54, STELLADOT.COM



H&M SKIRT, $69.95, HM.COM/CA



GUESS CROP TANK, $34.50, GUESS.CA

Orange you glad you've got the blues?

Want to combine this summer's two hottest hues in one sun-savvy item? Try these shades from the Etnia Barcelona Wild Love in Africa Collection. $299, etniabarcelona.com



The boys are back in tropicals



GAP SHORTS, $49.95, GAPCANADA.CA



BANANA REPUBLIC SHORTS, $74, BANANAREPUBLIC.CA



H&M SHORTS, $34.95, HM.COM/CA

Generation excellent

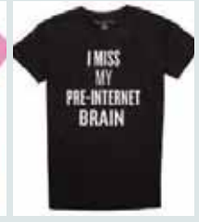
A very Coupland collection

Douglas Coupland and Roots have teamed up for a new capsule collection of clothes inspired by the author, artist and Canadian cultural icon. Released this week, the collection includes men's and women's tops, a scarf and a leather belt. Inspiration came from Coupland's visual work and coincides with his Vancouver Art Gallery exhibition Douglas Coupland: everywhere is anywhere and anything is everything. For more information on the collection, visit canada.roots.com.

METRO







SLOGAN SHORT SLEEVE T-SHIRTS, $42 / POP HEAD

LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRT, $58

Trends Report

If you enjoy being out in the sun, then you better be educated about sun protection. You've probably used SPF creams and sprays, but there's a new product on the market. Go online to Trends Report to learn about a U.S. company that claims it is has invented the world's first drinkable sunscreen.

- **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report



Photo by Irene, Instagram

Cookbook of the Week

For barbecues, backyards and beaches



There is something about eating outside, so it's no surprise that al fresco dining is becoming popular. In Vegan al fresco, Carla Kelly prepares elegant vegan dishes for outdoor dining. The book includes prep and cooking times, advice on portability, and menu suggestions for special occasions. In sections such as Sandwiches and Spreads, On the Grill, and Ready Built Salads, it includes recipes for Samosa Spring Rolls, Macaroni Salad, Chickpea Sausages, Hazelnut Latte Cupcakes and more. METRO

Al fresco gets into a vegan state of mind

Grilled Eggplant Sandwiches. Try a filling that's just as satisfying at meat

"Simple yet full of wonderful texture and flavour, these sandwiches can be prepared ahead of time and taken with you if there are no cooking facilities at your picnic spot," writes Carla Kelly in her book Vegan al fresco. "However, if you can grill on location, bring the marinated eggplant in containers and put sandwiches together using eggplant strips hot off the grill."

Ingredients

- 1 medium eggplant, , about 1 lb (500 g)

Marinade

- 2 tbsp olive oil
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) white wine
- 2 tbsp white balsamic vinegar or vegetable stock
- 2 tsp toasted cumin seeds
- 1 tsp smoked paprika
- 1/2 tsp dried tarragon
- 1/4 –1/2 tsp chili flakes
- salt and ground black pepper, to taste

Chive Butter

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) finely chopped fresh chives
- 2 tbsp finely chopped shallots
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) vegan margarine

To Assemble

- 4 long baguette-style rolls
- 2 fresh ripe tomatoes, sliced
- 2 cups baby spinach

1. In a large flat container with a resealable lid or in a large zip- close bag, combine all marinade ingredients.

2. Cut eggplant in half lengthwise, then into 16 1/4-inch (6-mm) wide strips. Place eggplant slices in bag with marinade and toss to coat. Marinate for at least 1 hour (longer is better). Turn after 30 minutes.

3. In a small bowl, combine chive butter ingredients. Cover and chill until required.

4. Preheat barbecue to high (or broiler, if using oven) and grill eggplant slices for 20 minutes, turning as required until both sides are golden and a little caramelized. While grilling, split rolls lengthwise and lightly toast if desired.

5. Spread rolls with chive butter. Place tomato slices, greens, and red onions on 1 side of each sandwich. Top each with 4 slices of grilled eggplant.

RECIPE FROM VEGAN AL FRESCO: HAPPY & HEALTHY RECIPES FOR PICNICS, BARBECUES & OUTDOOR DINING BY CARLA KELLY (ARSENAL PULP PRESS, 2014)



This recipe serves four. TRACEY KUSIEWICZ/FOODIE PHOTOGRAPHY.

Outdoor rugs more stylish than ever

The outdoor floor. Weave a summer spell with colourful runners and natural grass rugs



DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

An outdoor rug can offer more than just comfort underfoot. It can also lighten, brighten and freshen up a dull outdoor space. Fashioned after indoor styles, an outdoor rug can help make your adjoining outdoor space's decor reflect your indoor style — a great way to extend the feeling of your home during warm weather months.

Size: Choose a size of rug that helps to define a sitting area. As in choosing an area rug for the inside of your home, make sure the front legs of your patio furnishings sit on the rug. This will create the perimeter of your outdoor room no matter how large your outdoor space.



Juice up the patio with a shot of orange for the summer months. Miami Lattice Outdoor Rug, 5 x 8 ft., $69, UrbanBarn.com. ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

Shape: On a small or squared- shaped deck, consider using a round rug to add a soft line to the outdoor seating space. Consider runner-length carpets for long skinny balconies or a series of square rugs to help define various small areas on the balcony.

Colour: A fashionably coloured rug will help to add personality and create a focal point in a space without a view or other focus.

Neutral and less colourful rugs are perfect to tie a seating plan together without taking away from colourful furnishings.

Materials: Most outdoor rugs are made of synthetic fibres like olefin or polyester and plastic. There are also natural grass weave rugs. These are most suited for covered areas such as balconies or porches.

Although made for outdoors, never dismiss the idea of using an outdoor rug inside your home if you need a durable and affordable carpet. Children's rooms, arts and crafts areas and busy entryways are just a few areas that would fare well with an attractive yet durable carpet.

If planning a special dinner party outside, why not bring your inside rug out and use it for the night? Remembering to bring it inside at the end of the party is most likely the hardest part.

Floor 'em with groovy Union Jack design



Keep calm and confuse your house guests about where they are. Fun and bold Union Jack Outdoor Jockey Red 96 x 120 in. rug, $471, HomeDepot.ca.

Try the round carpet treatment

Add some curve to a boxy-looking patio. Courtyard 6 ft. 7 in. round rug, Natural Terra, $222, eCarpetGallery.com.



Local teammates could go top 5 in QMJHL draft

Taking the next step.
Newbridge standouts could follow in footsteps of East Coast NHL greats



GEORDON OMAND
halifax@metronews.ca



Evan Fitzpatrick in goal for Newbridge Academy in a game this season against Pictou County. CONTRIBUTED

With this year's Quebec Major Junior League draft just days away, one Dartmouth-based hockey program is over the moon at the prospect of two of their stars being picked among the top five this Saturday in Sherbrooke, Que.

Luke Green and Evan Fitzpatrick — who play together on the Newbridge Academy Gladiators major midget team — are ranked fourth and fifth for the draft, according to the QMJHL's central scouting list.

"The thing that jumps off the page with Luke is his skating — he's phenomenal," said Keifer House, hockey director at Newbridge Academy in Sackville, where both players attend, along with playing for the major midget Gladiators.

House described the 16-year-old defenceman's edge control, transitioning and speed as "pro-like now."

"I'm definitely looking forward to it," said Green about this weekend's draft. "It's great that it's finally here."

Despite his No. 5 ranking, there is talk of Green going first overall, which would place him alongside Sidney Crosby, James Sheppard, Alex Grant and Nathan MacKinnon as No. 1 QMJHL draft picks from Nova Scotia.

"That's definitely amazing to hear your name with those guys," said Green, who lives in Hammonds Plains.

"If I do go first that would be a pretty amazing group I'm joining … hopefully that comes through."

First pick overall this year goes to the Saint John Sea Dogs.

Green's goaltending teammate Fitzpatrick — originally from St. John's, N.L. — is the draft's top-ranked goalie, as well as the fourth-overall prospect.

The 16-year-old described his pending move to the QMJHL as a dream come true, adding he was "rather excited" to see his ranking for the first time.

"Evan has basically all the tools that scouts and general managers and coaches are looking for in a goaltender," said House about the six-foot-two, 194-pound netminder's size, technique and competitive drive.

"The ability and the talent is one thing," House added.

"But to have the work ethic and that competitive nature about you to always want to be your best — it's fundamental to his success."



Luke Green
CONTRIBUTED

Online

Follow Metro reporter @gwomand for live coverage of Saturday's 2014 QMJHL draft in Sherbrooke, Que.

Twin prospects

Sedins, meet the Greens

As far as hockey families go, the Greens have extra reason to be proud this weekend.

Their twin sons are both predicted to make the move into Quebec Major Junior Hockey at the league's 2014 draft this Saturday in Sherbrooke, Que.

Defenceman Luke Green is forecast to go in the top five, according to the QMJHL's central scouting registry, while his twin brother Matt — who plays forward for Newbridge Academy — is ranked No. 52 overall and predicted to be chosen in the draft's third round.

Having played together ever since they first laced up, Luke says the brothers hope to stay teammates.

"We love playing with each other," said Luke on Wednesday. "We're really close."

But despite having Sedin twin-like aspirations, the pair's fate is anything but certain.

"It's a draft and obviously you can't control it," said Luke. "(But) if we do end up together that'd be the best."

METRO

Loaded Eagles ready to draft or deal in Sherbrooke

With a plethora of picks in the first two rounds of Saturday's draft, Cape Breton Screaming Eagles head coach and general manager Marc-André Dumont says his club has plenty to work with.

"We're looking at every single option, to use our picks to draft or to move ahead in the draft," he said.

At the moment, the Screaming Eagles boast two first-round picks (No. 5 and No. 19) and four second-rounders (30, 31, 35 and 39) for the Quebec Major Junior League draft in Sherbrooke, Que. Things gets underway at 11 a.m. Atlantic time.

Up for grabs

The top-ranked Cape Breton player is forward Mitchell Balmas. The Sydney resident was the top rookie in the NSMMHL last season.

One of those selections, No. 39 overall, is expected to be sent to the Sherbrooke Phoenix along with 18-year-old goaltender Alex Bureau and the rights to defenceman Louis-Philippe Pagé in exchange for Phoenix defenceman and team captain Jonathan Deschamps and a fourth-round pick in 2016.

The deal won't be official until the start of the league's trading period on Friday.

The No. 5 overall selection and the No. 39 overall pick are compensation from the league after last year's first-overall choice, Nicolas Roy, refused to report to Cape Breton. The No. 19 selection was acquired from the Rouyn-Noranda Huskies at last year's draft. Cape Breton flipped their first-rounder this year to the Huskies so they could pick defenceman Jason Bell 12th overall last June.

"We're entertaining every possibility," said Dumont, when asked about trading one of his two first-round picks. "We're not closing any doors."

QMJHL's Central Scouting's top-ranked player heading into Saturday's draft is Pascal Laberge, a 6-foot, 158-pound winger who played with Chateauguay midget AAA in Quebec last season.

CAPE BRETON POST

4 SPORTS

Scan the image with your Metro News app for more coverage from a wild Wednesday at Roland Garros.

Habs' Bourque reborn in Boston

NHL playoffs. Montreal forward has 8 goals in playoffs after scoring only 9 in regular season


Rene Bourque celebrates one of his three goals on Tuesday night.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

There was a running joke during the NHL regular season about how Rene Bourque would almost score, or almost complete a pass, or almost make a hit.

Not a lot went beyond the "almost" stage for Bourque as the former two-time 27-goal scorer with the Calgary Flames finished 13th in team scoring on the Montreal Canadiens with nine goals and seven assists in 63 games.

But in the playoffs, Bourque has arrived.

The left-winger's hat trick in Game 5 of the Eastern Conference final helped Montreal stave off elimination with a 7-4 victory over the Rangers and gave them new life heading into New York for another win-or-go-home matchup in Game 6 on Thursday night.

The Rangers lead the best-of-seven series 3-2 and must win at home to avoid a return to the hyper-loud and energized Bell Centre for Game 7 on Saturday night.

"At the end of the regular season, we saw Rene engaged in the game a lot more, moving his feet, being physical, going hard to the net," coach Michel Therrien said Wednesday. "He's doing a lot of good things.

"You can't expect a player to score three goals every night or even score every game. But even when he doesn't score, he's playing solid hockey. He's getting involved physically. And last night, for me, it was leadership. It was a huge game for us. He came up big, and that's good not only for him, but for us."

In 16 playoff games, Bourque has eight goals and three assists, and has become one of the team's most effective forwards in a duo that was put together near the end of the regular season with centre Lars Eller.

"It was definitely a good game for me to step up and help the team," the 32-year-old Bourque said after his first career playoff hat trick.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NHL

Blackhawks win with second-overtime goal

Michal Handzus scored at 2:04 of the second overtime, and the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Los Angeles Kings 5-4 in Game 5 on Wednesday night to stay alive in the Western Conference final.

Brandon Saad made a nice pass to the middle to Handzus, who beat goalie Jonathan Quick with a backhander for his second goal of the playoffs. Handzus celebrated by jumping against boards behind the net as the sellout crowd of 21,871 roared.

Saad had a goal and two assists for the defending Stanley Cup champions, who stopped a three-game losing streak. Game 6 is Friday night in Los Angeles.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLB

Jays streak now nine games long

The Toronto Blue Jays extended their winning streak to nine games in dramatic fashion Wednesday night with a 3-2 walk-off victory over the Tampa Bay Rays at Rogers Centre.

With pinch-runner Kevin Pillar aboard after Dioner Navarro opened the bottom of the ninth with a single, Anthony Gose dropped a nice bunt down the first-base line. Reliever Juan Carlos Oviedo (1-1) threw wide to first and Pillar came all the way around to score the winning run.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Indiana Pacemaker!
George scores 37 to win by 3, saves Pacers' season

Paul George scored 31 of his 37 points in the second half Wednesday night and almost single-handedly kept the Indiana Pacers alive in the Eastern Conference finals with a 93-90 victory over the Miami Heat.

The Pacers still trail 3-2 in the best-of-seven series. Game 6 will be played Friday night in Miami.

It took a frantic effort just to extend the series, even with the foul-plagued LeBron James held to just seven points in 23 minutes. Chris Bosh led the Heat with 20 points missed a potential go-ahead three-pointer in the closing seconds.

Indiana turned a 50-41 deficit into a 64-57 lead after three, then led by as much as 11 in the fourth. But Miami's last-ditch rally made it 91-90 with 16 seconds to go before Indiana held on.


The Pacers' George shoots past the Heat's Chris Bosh in Game 5.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/MICHAEL CONROY

"It's going to be a totally different ball game (in Miami)," George said. "But we have to rise to the challenge. It will be a fun matchup."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Raonic rolls on in Paris

Milos Raonic gets fired up during his second-round win at the French open on Wednesday in Paris. Raonic beat Czech Jiri Vesely 7-6 (4), 6-4, 6-1 to reach the third round for a third consecutive year while fellow Canadian standout Eugenie Bouchard managed a 2-6, 6-2, 6-1 come-from-behind win over German Julia Goerges on Wednesday.

GETTY IMAGES

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
If you lose interest in what you are doing today it's a sign you are doing the wrong thing. A change of scene will help but in the long-term you may have to change your lifetime ambitions.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You need to show your vulnerable side. Too often you give the impression that nothing can bring you down when, in reality, you are as sensitive as everyone else.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may be a bit touchy over the next 24 hours. With your ruler Mercury moving into sensitive Cancer if there is anything worrying you it is sure to show up. Don't try to avoid it.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Social activities are under excellent stars today and the best way relax is to seek out people who think and act is similar ways to you. Looking for love? Find it with someone who shares your cultural interests.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Your confidence will get a boost today and you will be a lot more relaxed about your social and professional status. One door may have closed to you but within a matter of days, another door will open.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Money may be important to you but it must not be allowed to come ahead of more important things such as love and laughter. Don't think about what you own and earn, think about what motivates you.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
If there has been a dispute, now is the time to patch things up. That applies to all areas of your life but especially to business issues. There's always a solution.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your creative powers will be at their height over the next 24 hours, so make good use of them. Also, take your pleasures where you find them and don't listen to those who say you should be more cautious.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You may have tasks to complete but now is not the time to get busy on them. As Venus, planet of harmony, moves into the wellbeing area of your chart today your best course of action is to take life easy.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Something you found difficult before will come easier to you today. You may still have to struggle in other areas but the planets will generally give your spirits a lift and help you believe that most things are possible.

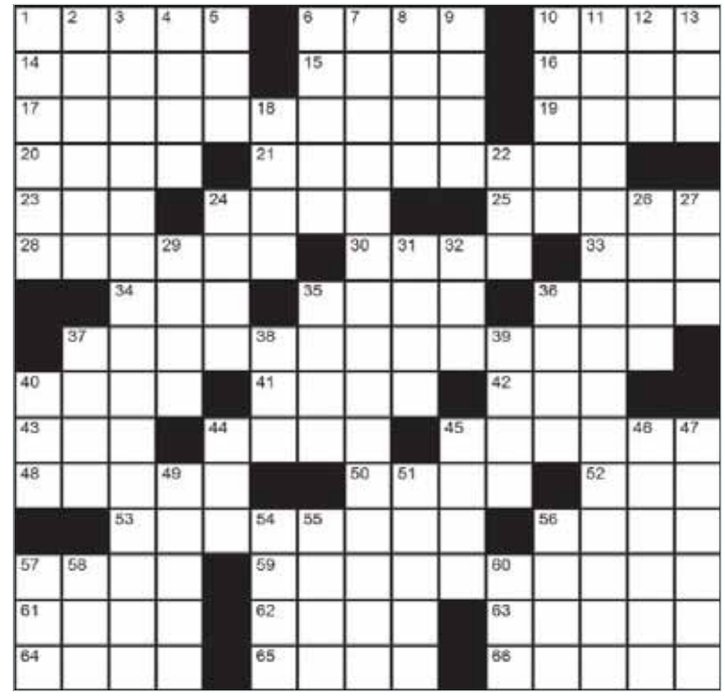
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Sometimes you get so caught up in making a living that you forget there are people who love you so much they don't care what you achieve. One such person will delight you.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Don't worry that others might think less of you if you ease off. Worry only that if you don't take better care of yourself you might come to harm. The planets urge you to take things at a slower pace. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across

1. Jubilant, poetry-style
6. Cole Porter's "Miss __ Regrets"
10. Lemony
14. Prepares potatoes
15. Stethoscope sound
16. Ms. Sanders
17. Canada's 'Big Five' gig: 2 wds.
19. Rob Roy, for one
20. Alberta town
21. Canadian cartoon series, "My __ Is Evil"
23. Bond
24. Manage
25. DQ's 'D'
28. Feels
30. Dry: Spanish
33. '_' __ in Victoria
34. Spoil
35. "The Simpsons" bus driver
36. Slammer
37. Toronto-born singer/songwriter who has rocked with Legendary Hearts: 2 wds.
40. Funny lady Imogene
41. God: Latin
42. "Unbelievable" hitmakers
43. "Entourage" superagent
44. Espionage: Mata __
45. Hurriedly depart again, say
48. Mountain chain
50. Dianetics guru, _. __ Hubbard
52. Poetic preposition
53. Prepped the sewing needle
56. "Top _' __ mornin' to you!"
57. Music's Ma
59. CTV series "Motive", for example: 2 wds.
61. "Lend me your __ and I'll sing..." - The Beatles
62. Knee, medical-style
63. Try to unearth: 2 wds.
64. Proofreading term
65. Slumps
66. Heavens

Down

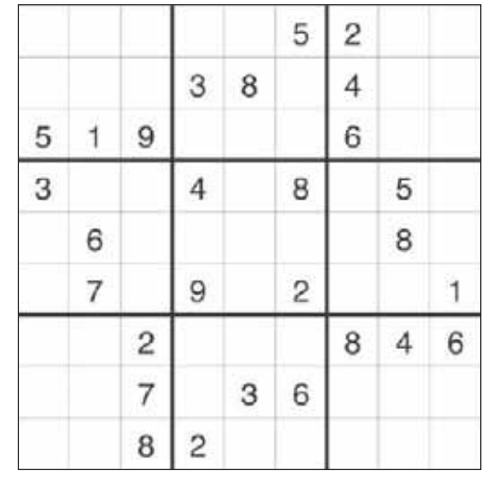
1. Friary figures
2. Net minder
3. St. Lawrence, Newfoundland born journalist/writer: 2 wds.
4. Bugling beasts
5. 'Earn' ender (Sincere)
6. Low ship deck
7. First Canadian Place in Toronto is Canada's what?: 2 wds.
8. '50s series, "_ __ Three Lives"
9. Feudal worker
10. "Battle of the Blades" champ Ms. Bonhomme
11. Some of the National Film Board's treasures: 2 wds.
12. Copacabana city
13. "Ka-boom!" stuff
18. Me-me-me's
22. Testimony-giver's oath: 2 wds.
24. Particle physics lab near Geneva
26. Staircase support
27. Posh wallet's lettering
29. Hall & Oates' "__ Smile"
31. Quebec 'summers'
32. Scam
35. Terminer's court pal
36. Doorway part
37. Tropical island, when doubled
38. Ms. LeShan
39. Jukebox tune: "__ Angel"
40. Vehicle variety
44. Lady
45. Took the bus
46. Canadian actress who plays Detective Angie Flynn on the show at #59-Across, Kristin __
47. Dog training incentives
49. 1990 movie blockbuster
51. Romulus and __
54. Hosp. heart recordings
55. Locale
56. "I have no money __ _ _ on me." (Stolen-wallet-person's conundrum)
57. Uh-huh
58. Cereal grass
60. Ike's Presidential monogram

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.



Yesterday's Sudoku

1	9	4	6	5	8	3	7	2
6	3	2	1	7	9	8	5	4
8	7	5	4	3	2	6	9	1
3	1	7	2	9	5	4	8	6
4	5	8	7	1	6	2	3	9
9	2	6	3	8	4	7	1	5
7	4	9	5	2	3	1	6	8
5	6	3	8	4	1	9	2	7
2	8	1	9	6	7	5	4	3

Today
19°/6°
Sunny
Friday
18°/6°
Variable
Your #1 weather forecast now available in HD.
Check your local listings for details.
The Weather Network HD
TWN incorporates MSC data

Tangerine
Forward Banking

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